

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 1364
By Borchert

A RESOLUTION to honor and recognize Ray Douglas on the occasion of his retirement as Benton County Highway Superintendent.

WHEREAS, from time to time, the members of this General Assembly have seen fit to honor those exemplary citizens who have contributed significantly to the growth and prosperity of their respective communities; and

WHEREAS, no Tennessean is more deserving of this honor than Benton County Highway Superintendent Ray Douglas, who has devoted nearly eighteen years of his life to the Benton County Highway Department; and

WHEREAS, few people have touched as many lives as Mr. Douglas, a gentleman who has attained and maintained excellence as a public servant during his illustrious 8-year tenure as Benton County Highway Superintendent; and

WHEREAS, Ray Douglas was a valuable employee of the Benton County Highway Department for nearly ten years before his fellow citizens expressed their confidence in his acumen and integrity and elected him as their Highway Superintendent in 1998; and

WHEREAS, after dedicating nearly eighteen years to building and maintaining the best roads possible for the citizens of Benton County, he will take a much deserved retirement from this important post on August 31, 2006; and

WHEREAS, Benton County has benefited greatly from Mr. Douglas's diligence on behalf of the county and his close attention to the needs of his fellow citizens; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Douglas modestly attributes his success as Highway Superintendent to the hard work of his employees and the support of his constituents; and

WHEREAS, a consummate professional in his field, Mr. Douglas has been an active member of the Tennessee County Highway Officials Association and the Region 4 County Highway Officials; and

WHEREAS, the son of Dewey and Allie Prince Douglas, he was raised in Benton County and graduated from Camden Central High School in 1955; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Douglas worked for a time in Kentucky, but he eventually returned to his native Benton County because of the abundance the area offers those who love the great outdoors; and

WHEREAS, in addition to his meritorious service with the Benton County Highway Department, he has operated heavy equipment and raised cattle over the years; in his all too rare free time, he enjoys hunting and fishing; and

WHEREAS, a devout Christian, Mr. Douglas expresses his faith through his attendance at Prospect General Baptist Church, where he has been a member for forty years and currently serves as a deacon; and

WHEREAS, his many professional accomplishments aside, Ray Douglas is most appreciative of the love and companionship he shares with his wife, the former Marcelle Bell; his son and daughter-in-law, Dwayne and Debra Douglas; his daughters and sons-in-law, Elizabeth and Danny Farmer and Jackie and Mark Palmer; and his seven wonderful grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, Ray Douglas is a person of impeccable morals and irreproachable integrity, and he has worked assiduously in numerous capacities to establish a brighter future for the good people of Benton County; and

WHEREAS, throughout his estimable career, Ray Douglas has demonstrated the utmost professionalism, ability, and integrity, winning the unbridled respect and admiration of his colleagues, employees, and the entire citizenry of Benton County; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we extend to Ray Douglas our heartfelt wishes for a happy and fulfilling retirement and every continued success in his future endeavors, even as we salute his

exemplary 18-year career spent in service to the Benton County Highway Department, especially as Highway Superintendent.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.